THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The Central Government in the Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs & Public Distribution has not fixed any limit on the money that can be spent by the manufacturers on advertisements.

(c) Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs & Public Distribution does not possess any such information. Pricing is influenced by a variety of factors including advertising.

(d) In view of above, question does not arise.

Enhanced Sugar to Ration-Card Holders

5231. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) what steps Government propose to take to enhance the quantity of sugar available to each ration-card holder;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to assist ration-card holder to obtain sufficient quantity of sugar at reasonable price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) Allocation of levy sugar is generally made on a norm of 425 gms. per capita monthly availability to the projected population as on 1-10-86. A 5% ad-hoc increase in the levy sugar allocation was made to States from August; 91 to march, 94. Due to constraints in the availability fo sugar, the the Central Government has proposal, at present to increase the levy sugar allocations to State/UTs. Subject to the overall allocations of levy sugar made to them, State Government and Union Territory Administrations decide sub-allocations to districts, taluks or blocks and individual Fair Price Shops. The scale of issue of levy sugar to consumers through the Public Distribution System is a matter that falls within the administrative juridiction of State Governments/U.T. administrations.

Sale of Electrical Appliances without ISI Mark

5232. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that electrical equipments and gadgets commonly used by consumers which are without ISI marks are prohibited throughout the country;

(b)if so, what the details of legal provisions in this regard;

(c) whether Government are aware that electrical equipments and gadgets without ISI marks are freely being sold throughout the country without any check whatsoever resulting in electric shocks and other fatal accidents to the consumers particularly in rural areas; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take to ensure that only ISI mark electrical items are sold to the consumers in the country and impose deterrent punishment for those selling electrical items without ISI marks.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED :

(a) and (b) The manufacture, storage for sale, sale and distribution of the following electrical items without ISI Mark have been prohibited through the quality control orders indicated against each :

i) Electric Immesrion Water heaters ii) Electric Iron iii) Electric radiators iv) Electric Stoves v) Switches for domestic and similar purposes vi) 2 Amp. Switches vii) 3 Pin plugs and socket outlets	: Electric Wires, Cables, Appliances and Accessories Quality Control Orders, 1993 issued by the Ministry of Industry in excercise of powers conferred by Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.
viii) General Service Electric Lamps	: General Service Electric Lapms (Quality Control) Order, 1989 issued by the Ministry of Industry in excercise of the powers conferred by Sec. 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.
ix) Dry batteries for transistor radio receivers	: Dry Batteries for Transistor and Radio Receivers (Quality Control) Order, 1986 issued by Ministry of Industry in excercise of powers conferred by Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.
x) Dry batteries for flash lights	: Dry Batteries for Flash Lights (quality Control) Order, 1986 issued by the Ministry of Industry in excercise of powers conferred by Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.
xi) Multipurpose dry batteries	: Multi-purpose Dry Batteries (Quality Control) Order, 1987 issued by the then Deptt. of Civil Supplies, in excercise of powers conferred by Section 14 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986.

(c) Yes, Sir. There are reports that the electrical items under Compulsory Certification are being sold in the market without ISI mark.

(d) The enforcement of various Quality Control Orders issued under the Essential Commodities Act, etc. lies primarily with the States/Unon Territories. The Government of India has been urging the State Governments3Union Territory Administrations from time to time for ensuring strict enforcement of these Quality Control Orders. The Bureau of Indian Standards also takes appropriate action, including raids,, whenever instances of misuse of ISI mark come to its notice.

Consumer movement in Andhra Pradesh

5233. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) what steps Government propose to take to strengthen the consumer movement in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether Government propose to coordinate an effort with Government of Andhra Pradesh to increase consumer education; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) The Government accords high priority to promoting a strong and broad based consumer movement in the country including the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c) The Central Government is coordinating with all the States/UTs including the State of Andhra Pradesh for promoting consumer education. The Central Government has given financial assistance to the States to organise seminars, workshops, training programmes etc. for educating the consumers. It is also organising training programmes for the representatives of consumer organisations, government officials, non-judicial members of the State Commissions/District Forums etc. from all the States/UTs including the State of Andhra Pradesh. The Central Government also produces printed and audio-visual publicity material which is then sent to all the State Governments.

Quality Control Committee

5234. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a committee was constituted to advise the Bureau of Indian Standards on enforcement of quality control orders;

(b) if so, the recommendations of the committee; and

(c) what concrete steps now BIS propose to take to make available the quality products in the markets ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The Bureau of Indian Standards in its last meeting held on 24-3-1994 decided to set up a Committee to advise the Bureau on ways and means for dealing with violations of Quality Control Orders as also misuse of ISI mark by unauthorised persons. The Committee has been constituted only recently and nominations from the concerned organizations represented on the Committee are being